

ROMANCE



Do Your Own Thing

If you're looking to enhance the state of your romance, you're coming to the right state. Whatever your fancy, the varied scenery and climate, delicious foods, delightful diversions, plus charming accommodations provide endless options to inspire the heart. Stroll arm-in-arm on a moonlit beach under the swaying palms, or curl up before a crackling fire in an alpine lodge. Share the fun of riding to dinner in a real stagecoach, or the peace of bicycling through manicured rows of leafy vines. Come to California and live your most romantic dreams.

ROMANTIC GETAWAYS

- 1 WINE COUNTRY
- 2 CITY GETAWAYS
- 3 COASTAL
- 4 IN THE WOODS
- 5 BEACH GETAWAYS
- 6 FESTIVALS

GUIDE TO SYMBOLS



Resorts and Spas



Wineries



B&B's



Beach Activities

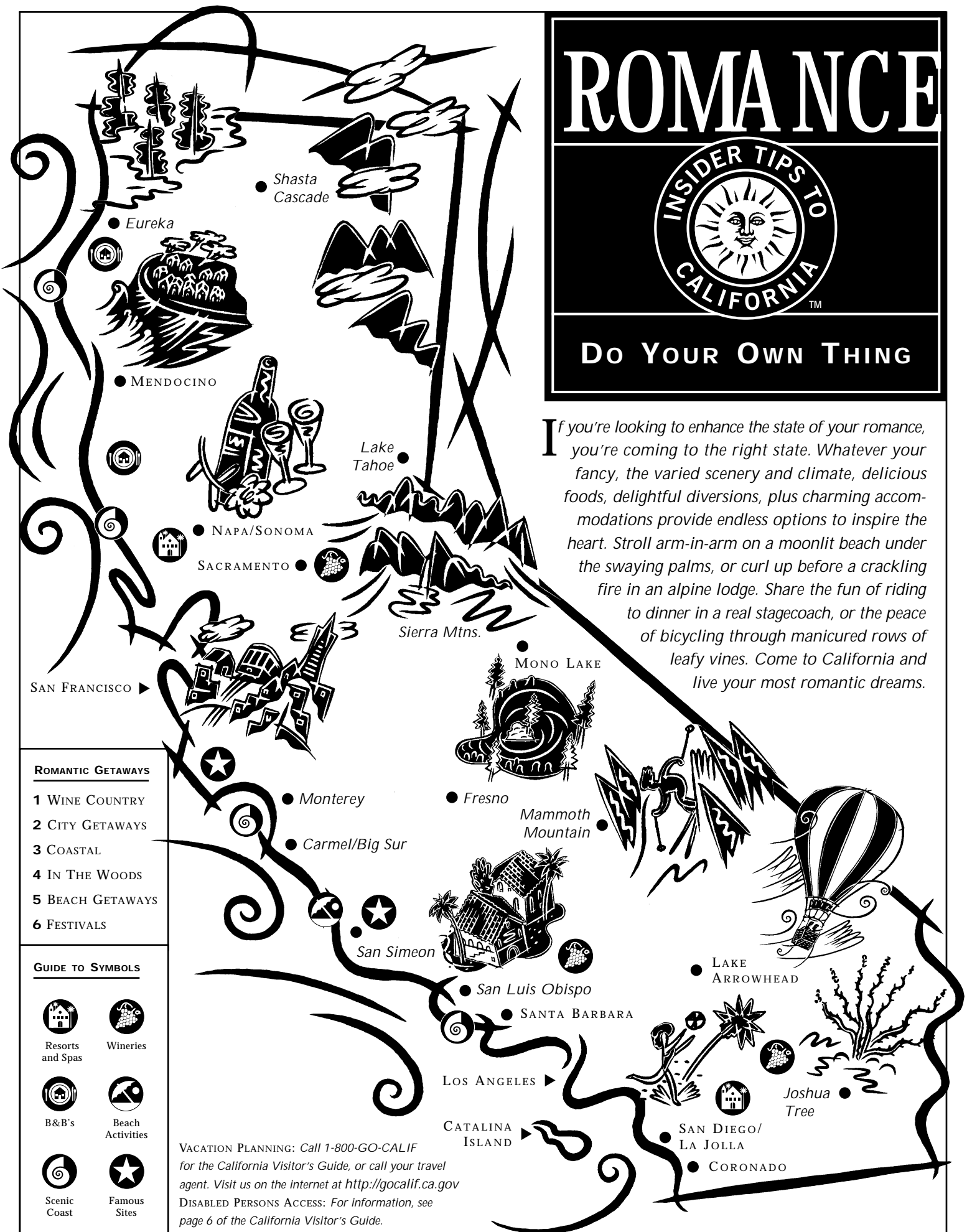


Scenic Coast



Famous Sites

VACATION PLANNING: Call 1-800-GO-CALIF for the California Visitor's Guide, or call your travel agent. Visit us on the internet at <http://gocalif.ca.gov>
DISABLED PERSONS ACCESS: For information, see page 6 of the California Visitor's Guide.



1 WINE COUNTRY GETAWAYS



NAPA AND SONOMA

LOCALS RECOMMEND

BEAUTIFUL BALLOON RIDES

- ☛ Temecula, S. of Riverside: *lush vineyards and orange groves.*
- ☛ Del Mar, N. of La Jolla: *seaside village plus the Del Mar Turf Club.*
- ☛ Napa: *splendor above the vineyards and world-renowned wineries.*
- ☛ Lancaster, NE. of LA: *dazzling spring display of California poppies.*

An hour north of San Francisco, in the Napa and Sonoma valleys, you'll find intimate inns, gorgeous scenery, exquisite cuisine and all the pleasures of wine tasting.

Some 34 wineries fan out from Napa Valley's Highway 29 between Yountville and Calistoga.

For an impromptu

tour and tasting, pick a large winery. At the boutique wineries, it's best to call ahead. There are charming shops to explore in Yountville. Or rent bikes there for a ride down the vineyard-lined Silverado Trail. St. Helena's award-winning restaurants are ideal for candlelit dinners. Or board the Wine Train for a meal as you tour the valley by rail. Calistoga's the place for a mud bath and massage.

Over 41 wineries surround Healdsburg along Highway 101 in the Sonoma Valley. Others border Highway 12 in Glen Ellen, where you can ride horseback at writer Jack London's former ranch. At Sonoma's Old Plaza shops, you can sample both wine and cheese. Or put together a picnic for a hot air balloon ride over the vineyards.

GOLD COUNTRY & SHENANDOAH VALLEY

The ore's mostly gone now, but the romance of Gold Country still remains as wine and history mix. East of Sacramento along Highway 49, "liquid gold" is produced today in the wineries and foothill vineyards of the Shenandoah Valley, just north of Amador City. Stay overnight in nearby Sutter Creek, Jackson or Ione. Head south on 49 to discover Murphys' heady mix of wineries and historic inns.

2 CITY GETAWAYS



SAN FRANCISCO

A city of breathtaking surprises, San Francisco fills the senses with pleasure. Hold on as the Hyde St. cable car crests a hill and reveals the sparkling bay, Angel Island and Alcatraz. Atop the Bank of America headquarters or any of the city's tower hotels are ideal to sip aperitifs. From Twin Peaks, watch the fog roll in and gently embrace the city below as you share just-baked sourdough bread and fresh crab from Fisherman's Wharf.

From Pier 33, you can cruise the bay in style while you dine and dance. The view of the city's skyline from the water is unparalleled. South of Market (SOMA), you'll find artistic stimulation at the new

LOCALS RECOMMEND

SF RESTAURANT ZONES

- ☛ South of Market: *trendy, funky and chic.*
- ☛ North Beach: *Italian flair.*
- ☛ Mission District: *down-home south-of-the-border fare.*
- ☛ Clement: *the Pacific Rim at your service.*

LA RESTAURANT ZONES

- ☛ Beverly Dr., Beverly Hills: *impressive prime rib to tasty tempura.*
- ☛ Melrose Avenue, W. Hollywood: *elegant to avant-garde.*
- ☛ Sunset Strip, W. Hollywood: *big burgers to celebrity chefs.*
- ☛ Coast Highway, Malibu: *seaside funky to Wolfgang Puck's innovative grotto.*

Museum of Modern Art (MOMA). The area's many cafes and eateries offer innovative cuisine and a taste of the city's "left bank" culture.

LOS ANGELES
For seaside delights, silver screen allure and timeless treasures, come to Los Angeles. There's more to LA than glitter. You can take a stroll on Malibu's cozy, celebrity-frequented beaches. Tuck away in one of the Queen Mary's Art-Deco suites. Be dazzled by a million city lights parked in the velvet darkness of Mulholland Drive. Share a hamper and box seats at the Hollywood Bowl under a summer night's star-sprinkled sky. Near Pacific Palisades, pack a picnic and thrill to the thundering pace of polo on the lawn at Will Rogers State Park.

3 COASTAL GETAWAYS



MENDOCINO

North of San Francisco lies the seaside village of Mendocino. Charming and peaceful, the setting nourishes a gentle intimacy.

LOCALS RECOMMEND

DROP-THE-TOPI DRIVES

- ☛ Highway 1: *Big Sur to San Simeon, vertigo views.*
- ☛ Avenue of the Giants: *redwood forest splendor.*
- ☛ Laguna Beach to Dana Point: *sunshine and sunsets.*
- ☛ Napa/Sonoma: *heady, sensuous vineyard aromas.*
- ☛ Mulholland Drive: *inspirational night views of Hollywood.*
- ☛ Golden Gate Bridge, SF: *dazzling design, breathtaking bay views.*

In this bed and breakfast heaven, pick a room with a fireplace and windows framing the ocean. Breakfast on cornmeal waffles and fresh blueberries at a famed local bakery. Discover tide pools at Mendocino Headlands State Park.

Renew your spirits amid the scented, majestic redwood groves

at Hendy Woods State Park near Elk or in Fort Bragg, where you can also ride the "Skunk Train" for cliff-hugging thrills.

CATALINA ISLAND

An hour or so by high-speed ferry off Southern California's coast lies Catalina Island, perfect for a weekend, or just a day trip.

You'll cruise into Avalon's picturesque bay, presided over by the deliciously white Casino Ballroom. You can hide away in western novelist Zane Grey's hillside adobe or an intimate waterfront inn. Automobiles barely exist, so rent a bike, golf cart or moped to scoot along the winding hillside roads. Avalon's harbor is very clean and clear, so swim, kayak, snorkel, dive, water-ski or drift in an inner tube from the Pleasure Pier. Life under the sea is easily seen aboard semi-submersible boats. On summer weekends, you can dance the night away at the renowned Casino Ballroom. The building also houses a beautifully restored movie palace.

4 IN THE WOODS



MONO LAKE

Cupped in a round basin 14 miles southeast of Yosemite National Park, Mono Lake is ideal for couples seeking other worldly natural beauty. Milky blue water edged by white salty beaches set off surreal sandcastle-like tufas.

Nearby Lee Vining offers cabins within walking distance of the lake. Or rangers can suggest campsites. The sandcastle-like tufa towers are a marvel best enjoyed on a guided trail walk. For a breathtaking view of this 730,000-year-old lake, hike up and picnic on the rim of Panum Crater. About 20 miles north lies Bodie Ghost Town, the wickedest town in the Old West. Pack a lunch and water and walk

Bodie's once violent streets, now left in hauntingly beautiful "arrested decay."

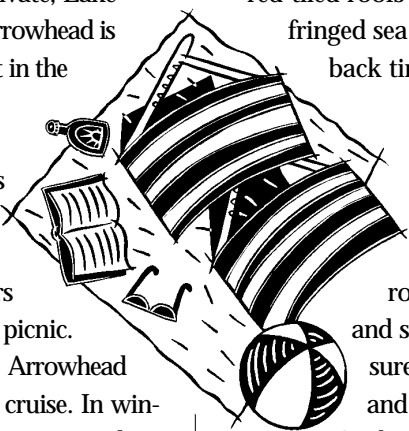
LAKE ARROWHEAD
This is the pine-edged lake of your youth, when you and your first love cuddled in a boat, with water shimmering in the moonlight. Nearly private, Lake Arrowhead is set in the

LOCALS RECOMMEND

POP-THE-QUESTION SPOTS

- ☛ Nepenthe's: magnificent Pacific view, Big Sur.
- ☛ Moon Gazing Garden: Golden Gate Park, SF.
- ☛ Macondery Steps: atop Russian Hill, SF.
- ☛ Mendocino Coast: Little River, quaint and quiet.
- ☛ Napa/Sonoma Valley: consider a hot air balloon.
- ☛ Swan Lake Hotel Bel-Air: in a secluded LA canyon.

San Bernardino Mountains about two hours east of LA. Stay at an inn or bed and breakfast which offers lake access for a swim or picnic. Board the paddlewheeler, Arrowhead Queen, for an enchanting cruise. In winter, Arrowhead takes on a snowy splendor. Loaded with alpine charm, Arrowhead Village — with 80 shops and restaurants — inspires intimate dinners as well as boutique browsing.



5 BEACH GETAWAYS



CORONADO

LOCALS RECOMMEND

SEASIDE STROLLS

- ☛ Torrey Pines State Park: above the Pacific in north La Jolla.
- ☛ Stearns Wharf: panoramic views of Santa Barbara.
- ☛ Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens: a coastal pine forest.
- ☛ Sunset Cliffs: stunning sunsets from Point Loma in San Diego.

Across the harbor from San Diego, Coronado Island delights with pearly beaches and small-town friendliness. From the Broadway Pier catch the ferry to Coronado's Ferry Landing Marketplace. Ride the trolley down Orange Avenue between rows of

fragrant citrus trees and charming restaurants and shops. At the end of the avenue, experience a reward of civilized living since 1880: Hotel Del Coronado.

Silver Strand Beach, one of the widest beaches in the country, is ideal for a sun bath and a splash. For after-dark play and fine dining, return to San Diego and head for the Gaslamp District.

SANTA BARBARA
Sweeping down from the Santa Ynez Mountains down to the Pacific Ocean, Santa Barbara awaits you just 90 miles north of Los Angeles. The unmistakable Côte d'Azur setting — hills dotted with red-tiled roofs overlooking a palm-fringed sea — draws romantics back time and again.

You'll find delightful hotels in town along the coast, and secluded resorts in nearby Montecito that cater to romance in both ambiance and service. For simple pleasures, stroll the Esplanade and lunch at Stearns Wharf. Sunbathe on West Beach, then shop along East Beach for local artist's treasures. The Museum of Art is a genuine treat, and the waterfront trolley offers a fun tour of the historic city.

6 ROMANTIC FESTIVALS & HOLIDAYS

PALM SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Palm Springs—January

CRAB, WINE AND ART FESTIVAL

Eureka—January

NAPA VALLEY MUSTARD CELEBRATION

Calistoga—February

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Santa Barbara—March

CORONADO FLOWER SHOW WEEKEND

Coronado—April

LOCALS RECOMMEND

GOTTA DANCE!

- ☛ Catalina Island: The Casino Grand Ballroom, harbor view.
- ☛ Hotel Del Coronado: cheek-to-cheek near San Diego.
- ☛ Santa Monica Blvd., LA: salsa clubs.
- ☛ Sunset Blvd., LA: rock clubs.
- ☛ SOMA, SF: hip & hop happenings.
- ☛ Mission District, SF: sizzling salsa.

FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL

San Francisco—April

SHAKESPEARE OUTDOOR THEATER

San Diego—June-September

WINERY OUTDOOR MUSIC CONCERTS

Napa—June-September

FIREWORKS AT THE QUEEN MARY

Long Beach—July

JAZZ JUBILEE

Mammoth Lakes—July

BLUES AND ART ON POLK

San Francisco—July

TWILIGHT DANCE SERIES

Santa Monica—July

SAN DIEGO OUTDOOR MUSIC POPS

San Diego—July-August

BLACKBERRY & BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

Mt. Shasta—August

MONTEREY WINEMAKERS CELEBRATION

Monterey—August

BALLOON EXPO

Clovis—September

SAN FRANCISCO JAZZ FESTIVAL

San Francisco—October

LIGHTED BOAT PARADE

San Diego—December

THERE'S MORE! For a complete list, visit our internet site at <http://gocalif.ca.gov>